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(54) **SKIN TONE CORRECTION FOR BODY TEMPERATURE ESTIMATION**

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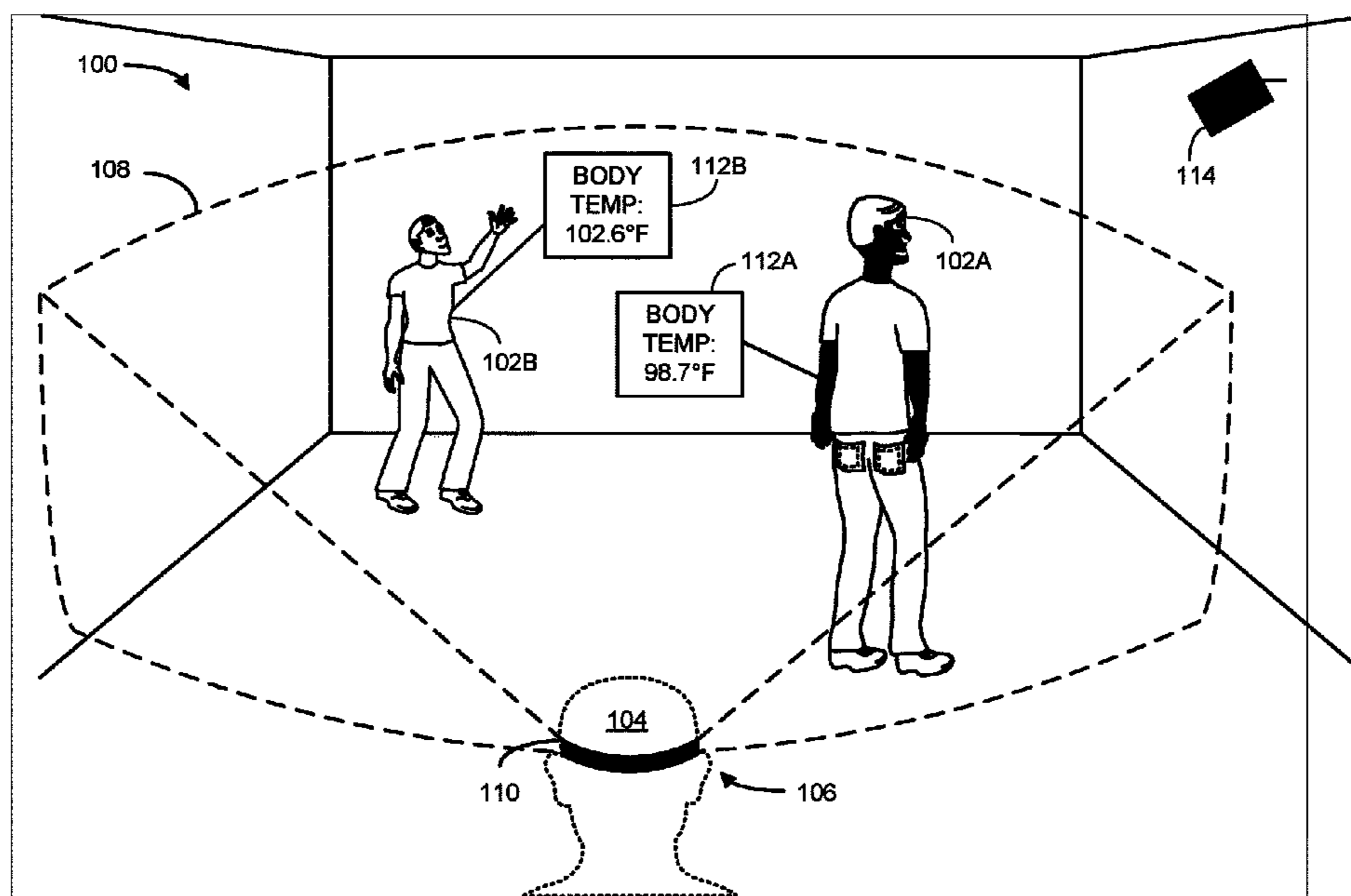
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for estimating human body temperature includes receiving, via a thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image. A position of a first human face is identified within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject. A skin tone of the first human face is identified. Based on the identified skin tone, a skin tone correction factor is applied to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values. Based on the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values an indication of a body temperature of the first human subject is reported.

**18 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets**



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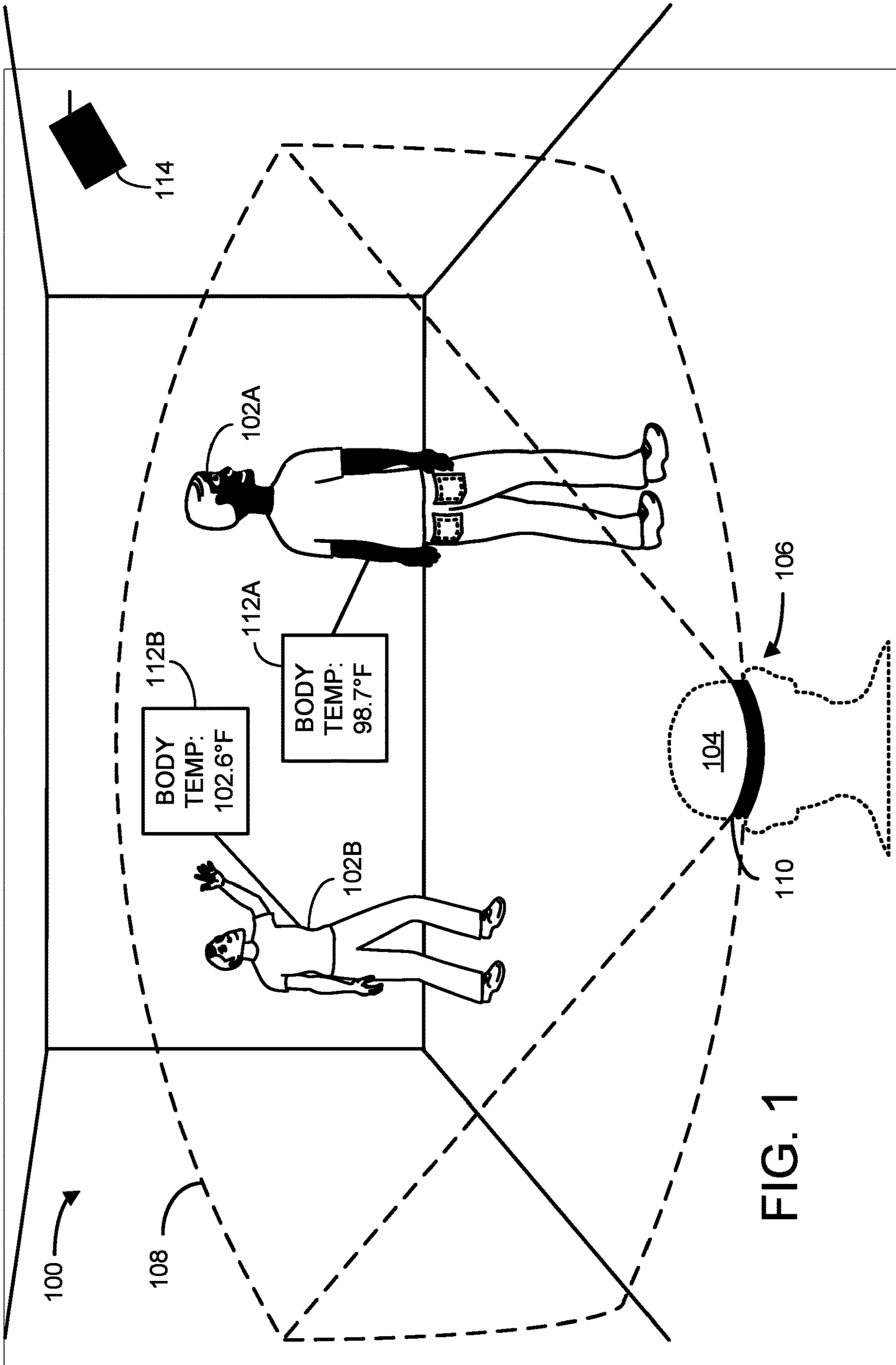


FIG. 1



200

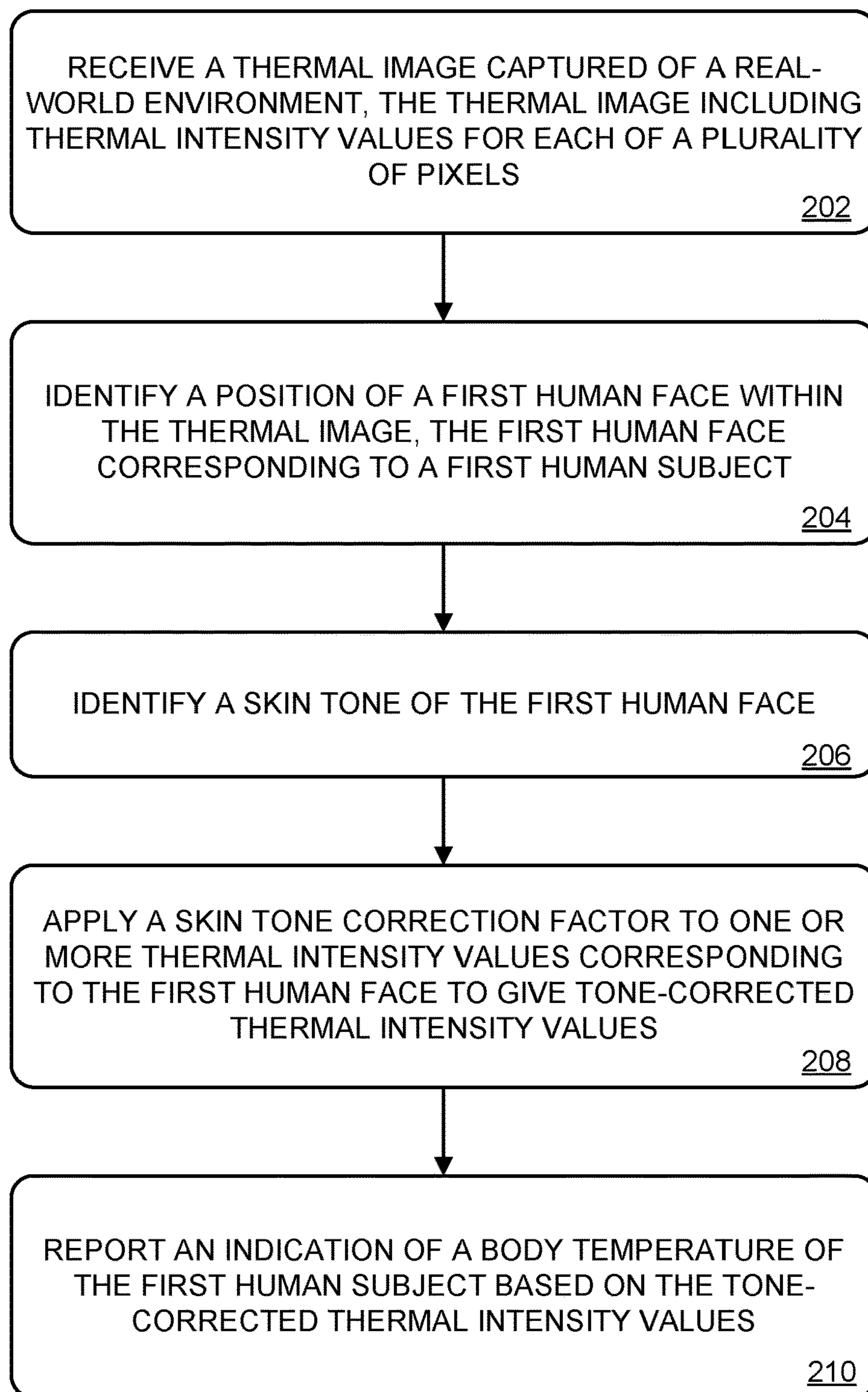


FIG. 2

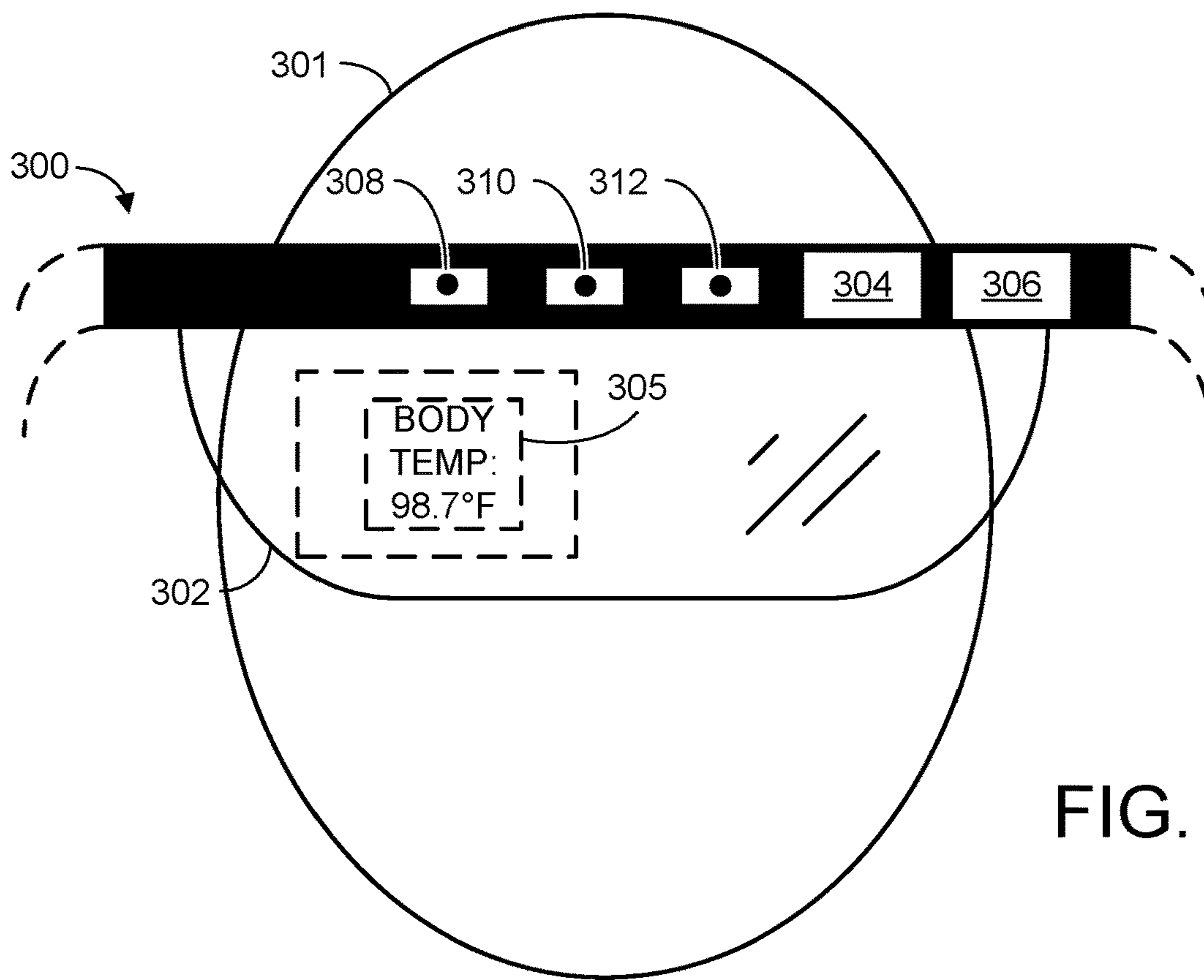


FIG. 3

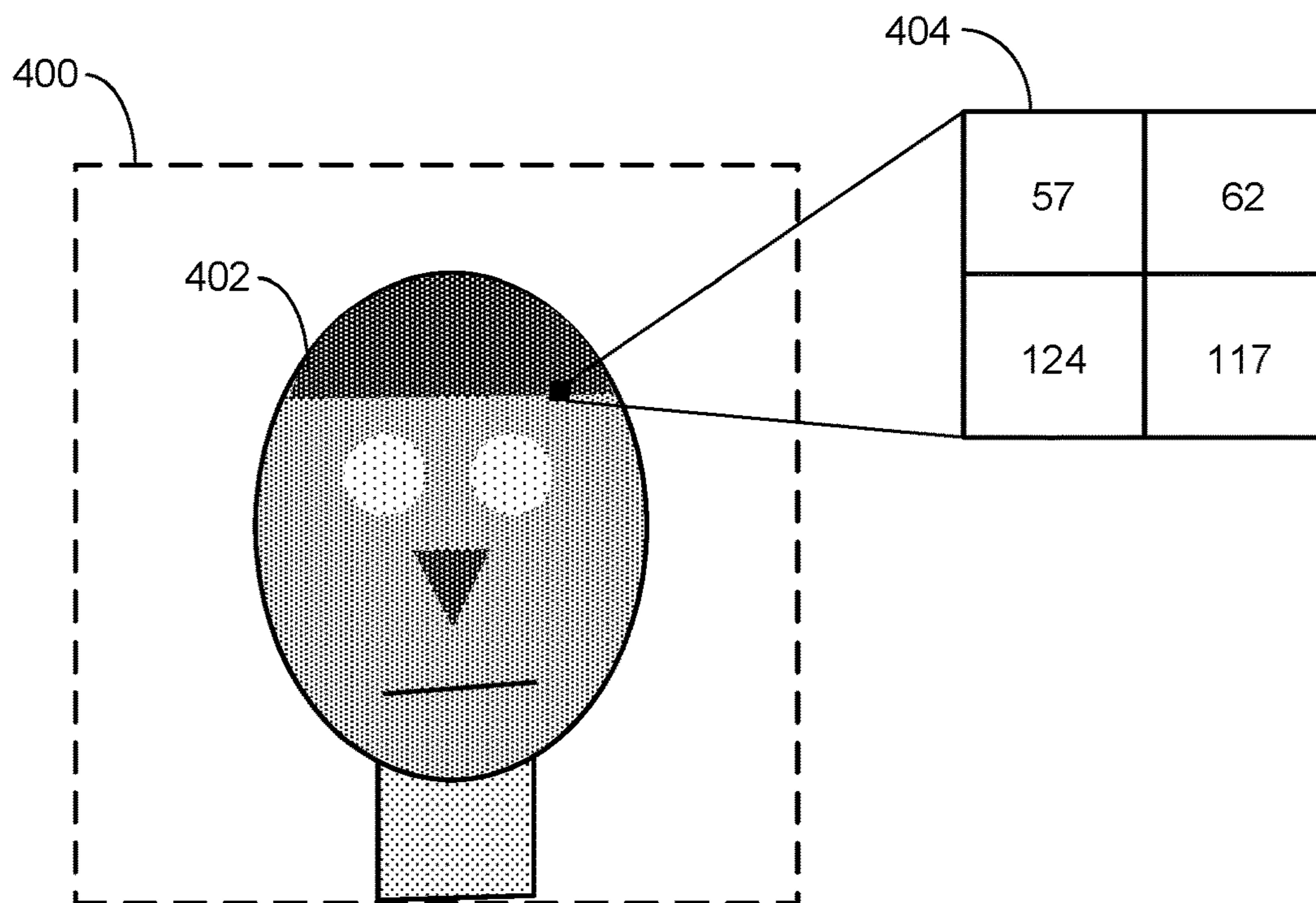


FIG. 4

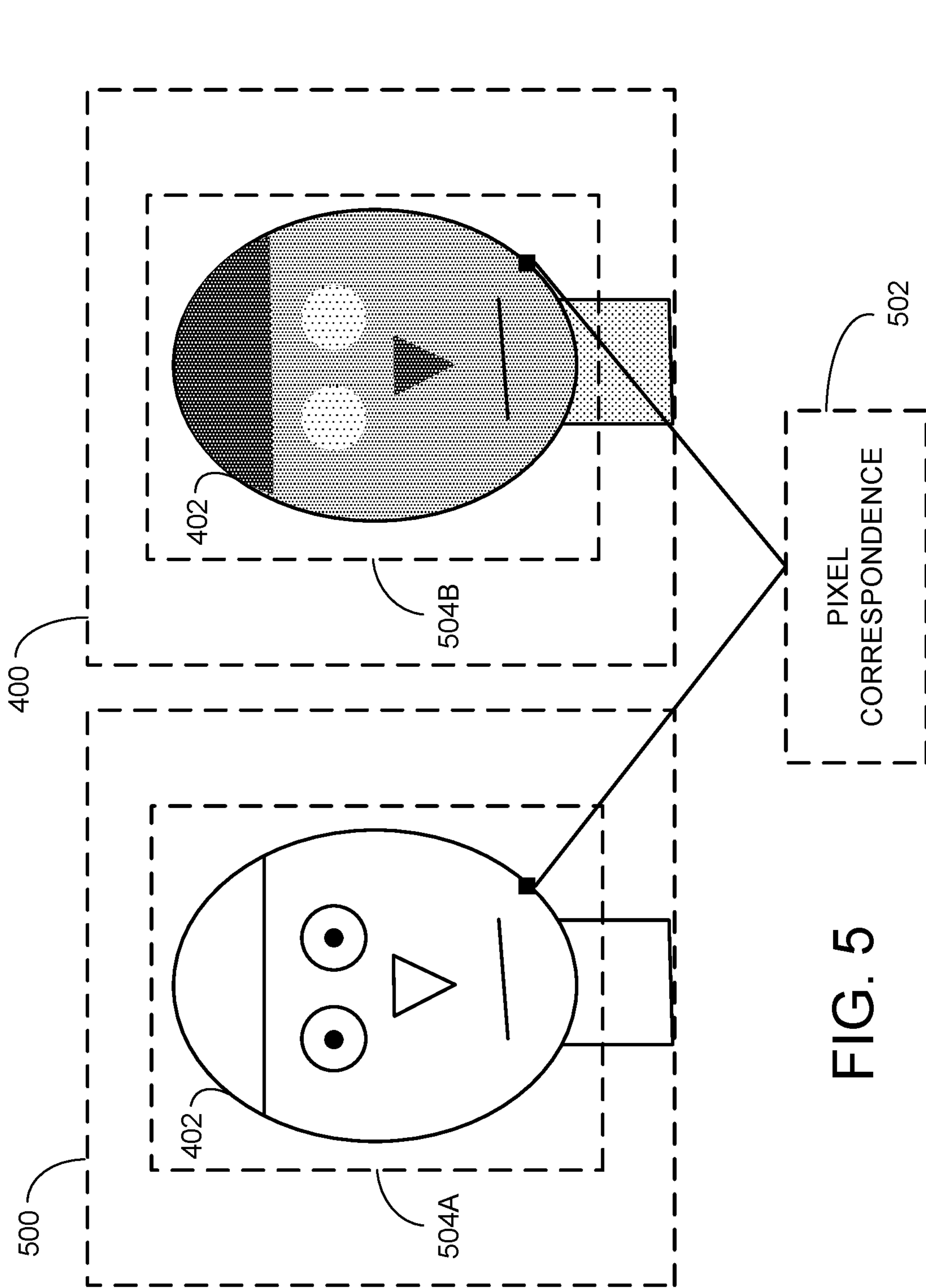


FIG. 5

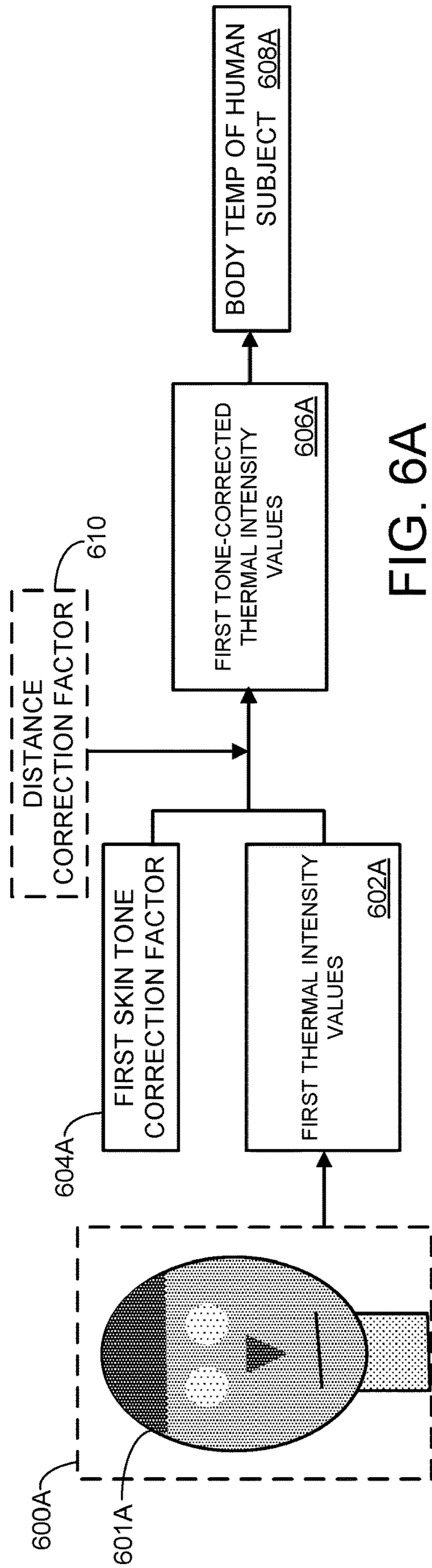


FIG. 6A

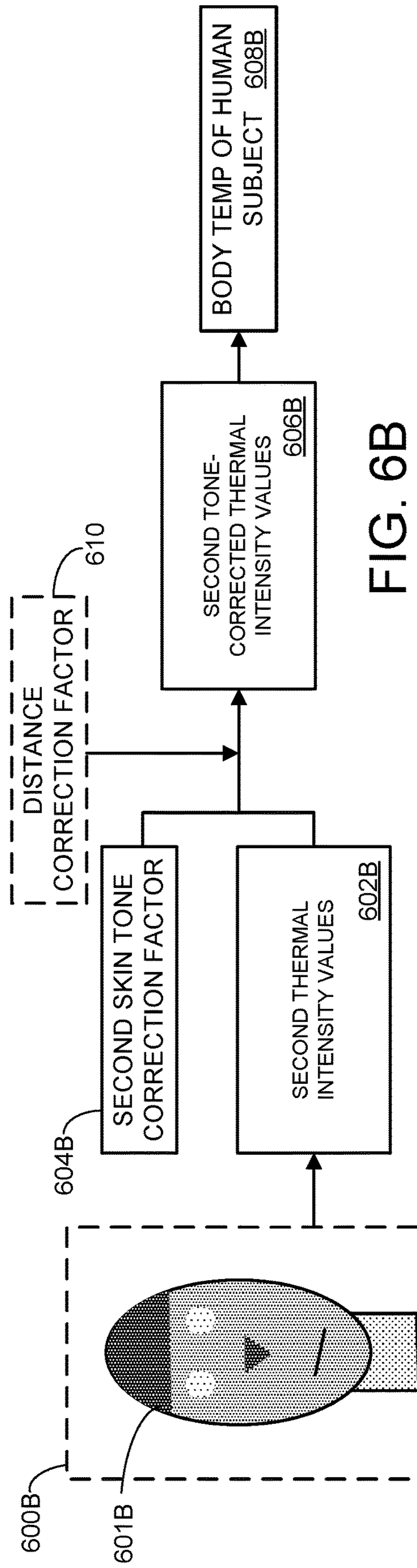


FIG. 6B



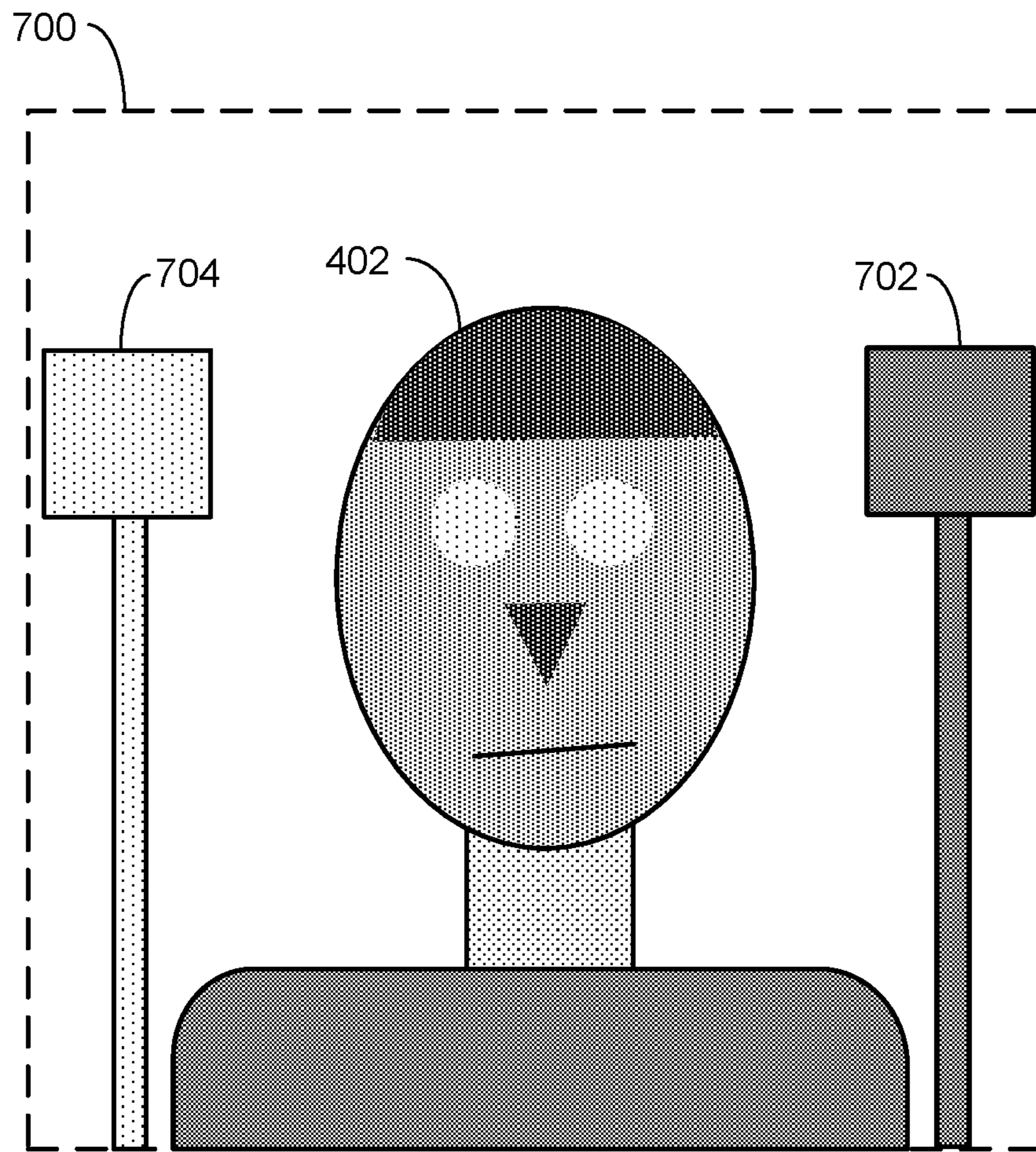


FIG. 7



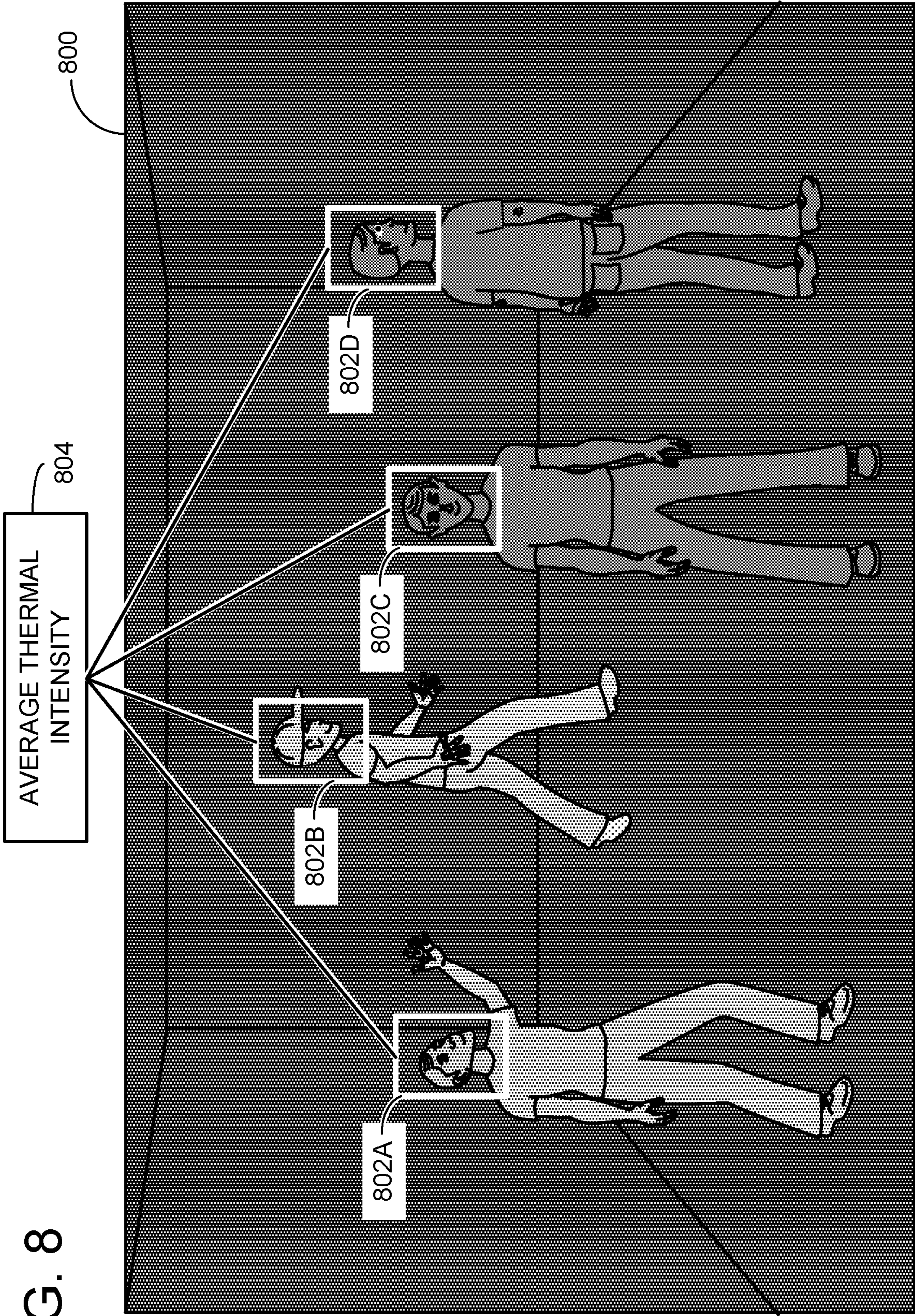


FIG. 8

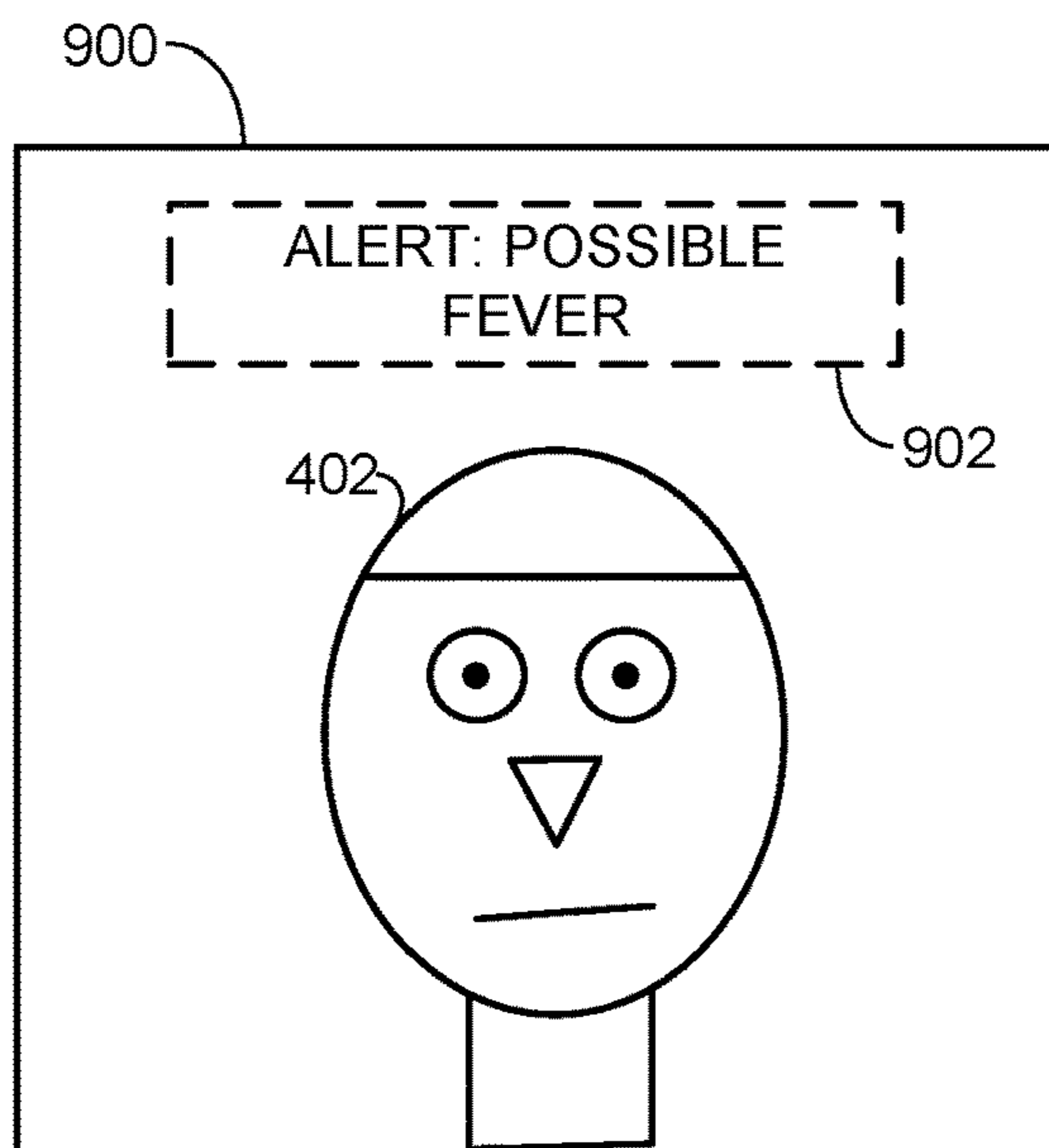


FIG. 9A

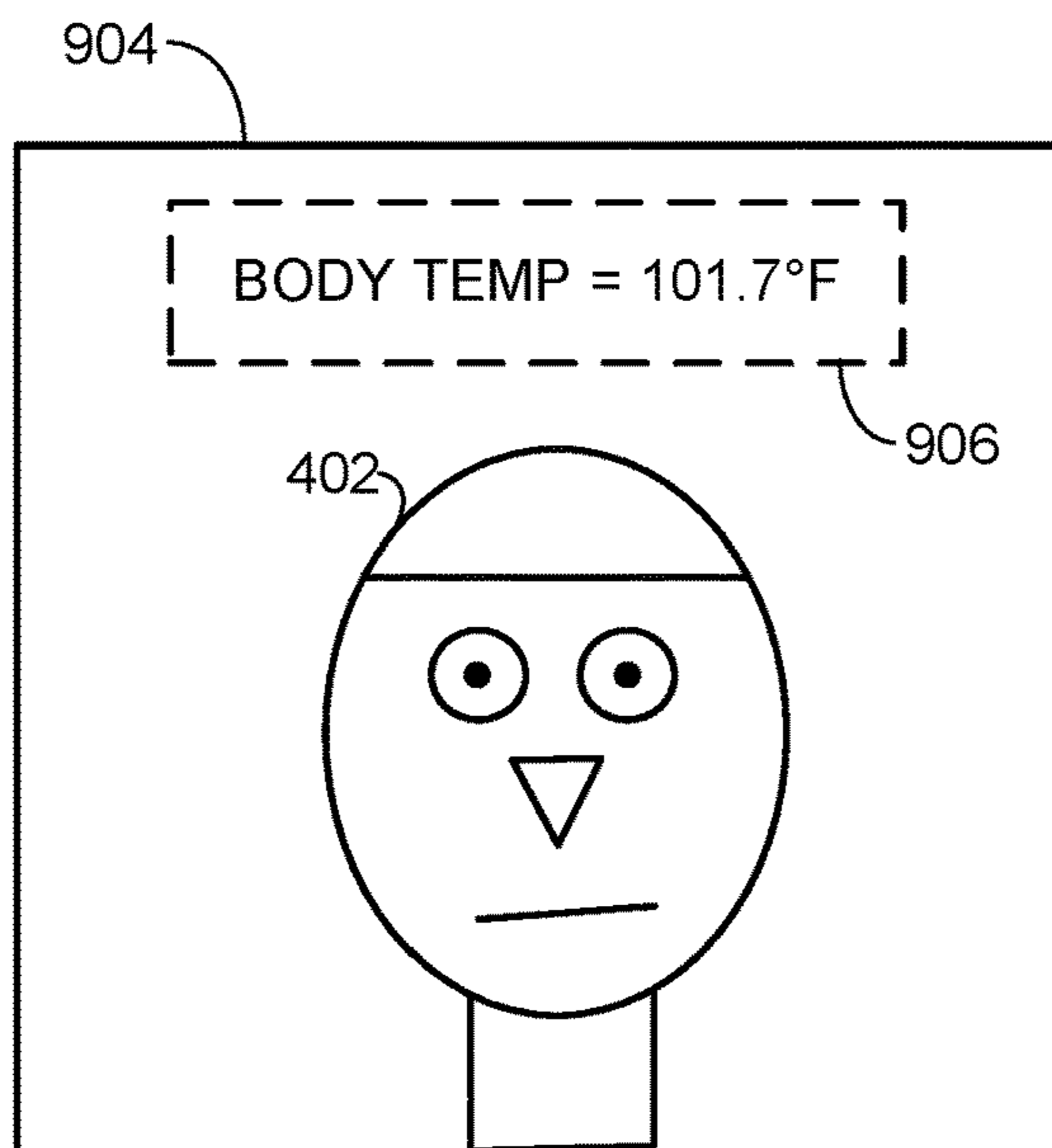


FIG. 9B

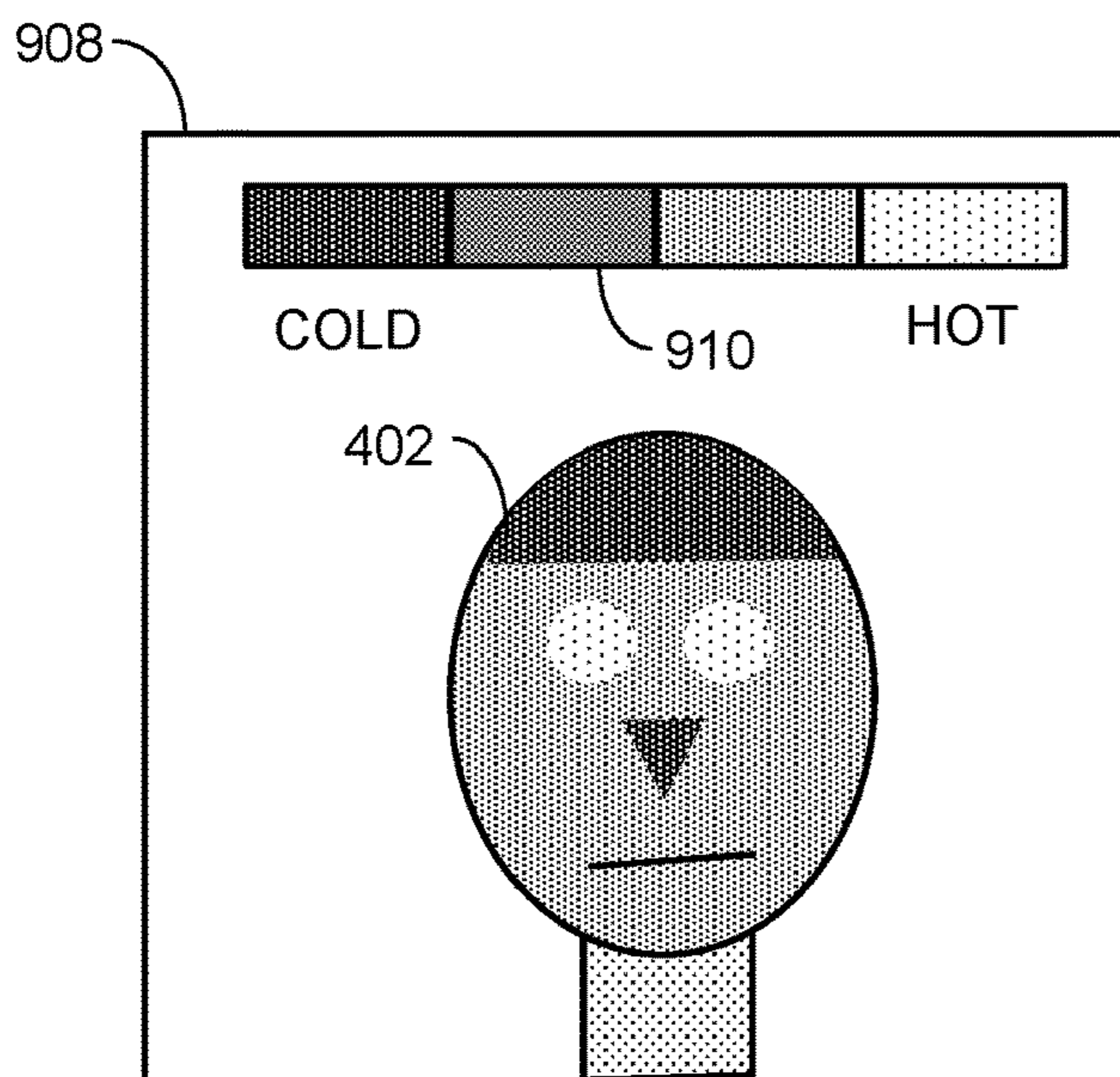


FIG. 9C

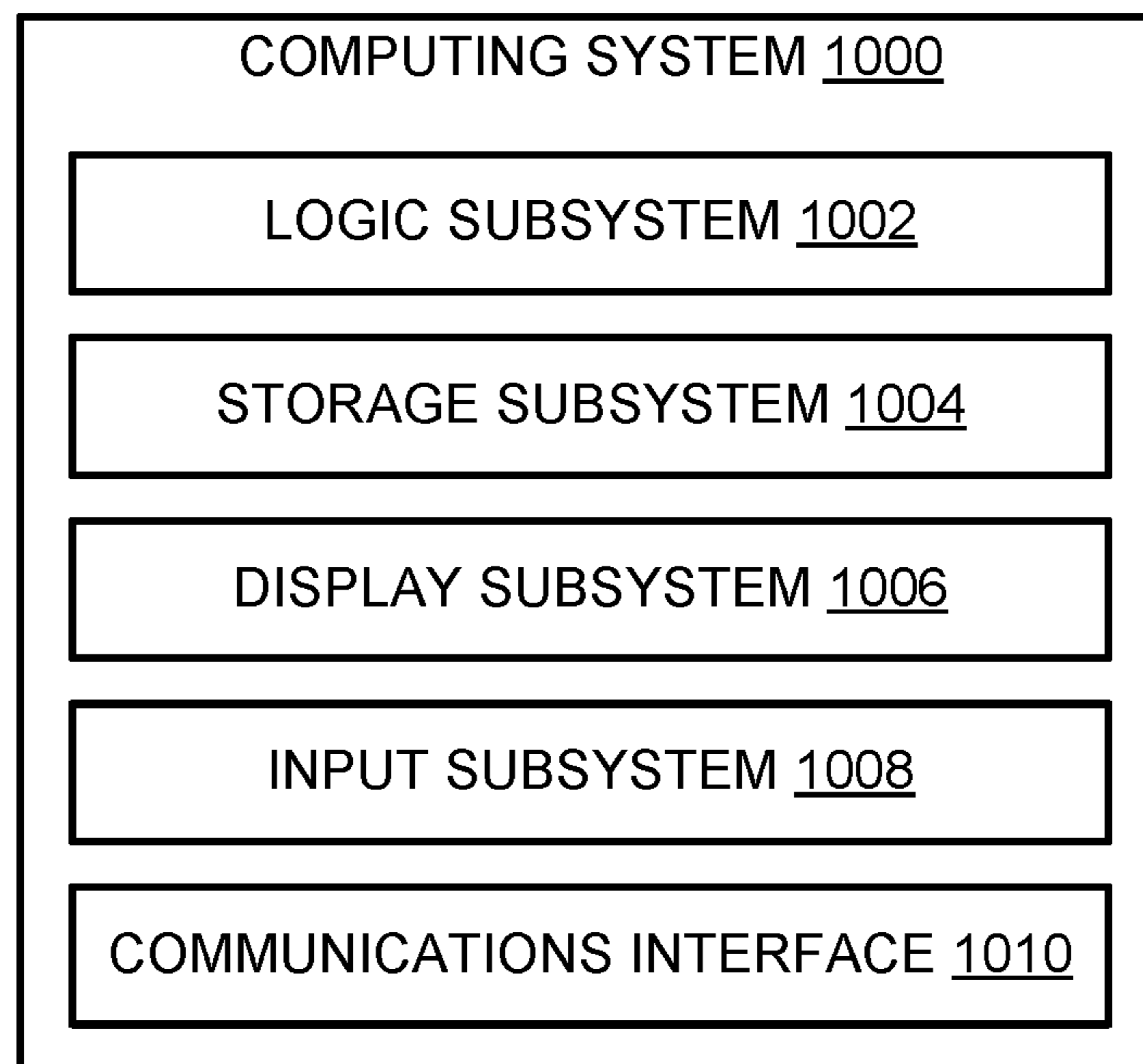


FIG. 10



## SKIN TONE CORRECTION FOR BODY TEMPERATURE ESTIMATION

### BACKGROUND

Relative temperatures of objects in an environment may be estimated from thermal images. Pixels of a thermal image may encode thermal intensity values that express relative amounts of thermal energy received by the thermal camera from objects in the environment. The amount of thermal energy emitted by an object for a given temperature is proportional to the object's thermal emissivity value.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 schematically depicts reporting of indications of body temperatures of human subjects.

FIG. 2 illustrates an example method for estimating human body temperature.

FIG. 3 schematically depicts an example head-mounted display device.

FIG. 4 schematically depicts example thermal-intensity values of a thermal image depicting a human subject.

FIG. 5 schematically depicts pixel correspondences between a thermal image and a second image.

FIGS. 6A and 6B schematically illustrate skin tone correction of thermal intensity values of two human subjects.

FIG. 7 schematically depicts an example thermal image depicting a human subject and two blackbody radiators.

FIG. 8 schematically illustrates identification of an average thermal intensity for a plurality of human subjects.

FIGS. 9A-9C schematically illustrate different example indications of a body temperature of a human subject.

FIG. 10 schematically illustrates an example computing system.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In some cases, a computing device may be used to estimate and report an indication of a body temperature of a human subject. This is schematically illustrated in FIG. 1, which shows a real-world environment **100** including two example human subjects **102A** and **102B**. In environment **100**, a user **104** equipped with a head-mounted display device **106** has a field-of-view **108**, indicating an area in which virtual content presented by a near-eye display **110** of the head-mounted display device may be visible to the user. Via the near-eye display, the head-mounted display device is displaying indications **112A** and **112B** of estimated body temperatures of the human subjects.

An indication of a body temperature of a human subject may take any suitable form. In the example of FIG. 1, the estimated body temperatures of the human subjects are numerically represented on the near-eye display of the head-mounted display device, such that the body temperatures are displayed at screen-space positions on the near-eye display at or near positions corresponding to the human subjects. In other examples, as will be described in more detail below, the indications of the body temperatures of the human subjects may be reported in other suitable ways (e.g., non-numerically). Furthermore, indications of human body temperatures need not be presented on near-eye displays, but rather may be presented on any suitable electronic display in any suitable manner.

The body temperatures of human subjects may be estimated in any suitable way. It will be understood that a human's internal body temperature varies across different

parts of the body. Thus, for the purposes of this disclosure, the "body temperature" of a human subject will refer to the subject's core body temperature, which is often used for the purposes of medical diagnosis.

In some examples, a thermal image of the real-world environment may be captured by a thermal camera, the thermal image having thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image, including pixels corresponding to human subjects that may be in the environment. The thermal camera may in some cases be integrated into a head-mounted display device (or other computing device configured to perform functions described herein), or may alternatively be a standalone camera or a component of a separate camera system, such as camera system **114**. The thermal intensity values of the thermal image encode the amount of thermal energy emitted by the objects in the real-world environment and received by the thermal camera. In this manner, the relative temperatures of the objects in the real-world environment may be estimated based on their corresponding thermal intensity values in the thermal image.

However, the amount of thermal energy emitted by an object at a particular temperature depends on the object's thermal emissivity value. In the case of human subjects, the skin tone of the human subject will often affect the amount of thermal energy emitted by the human subject at a particular body temperature, as different skin tones correspond to different thermal emissivity values. For example, in FIG. 1, subjects **102A** and **102B** have different skin tones, and thus will have different thermal emissivity values. It is estimated that the thermal emissivity of relatively lighter-skinned human subjects is approximately 0.95, while the thermal emissivity of relatively darker-skinned human subjects is approximately 0.98. This can make it difficult, for example, to identify human subjects in a thermal image having elevated body temperatures (e.g., consistent with a fever), as two different human subjects having different skin tones may register differently within a thermal image, even when the two users have the same core body temperature. Similarly, it may be difficult to discern when two human subjects having different skin tones have significantly different body temperatures (e.g., one feverish and one normal). For example, when skin tone is not accounted for, two users who may appear to have the same thermal intensity in a thermal image may have significantly different body temperatures—e.g., one user may have a significant fever, while the other is normal.

Accordingly, the present disclosure is directed to techniques for estimating human body temperature based on an identified skin tone of a human subject. Specifically, after identifying the position of the face of a human subject within a thermal image, a skin tone of the human face is identified. Then, based on the identified skin tone, a skin tone correction factor is applied to one or more thermal intensity values corresponding to the human face. Based on these tone-corrected thermal intensity values, an indication of a body temperature of the human subject is reported. In this manner, the body temperature of human subjects may be more accurately estimated, even in cases where human subjects having multiple different skin tones are present.

FIG. 2 illustrates an example method **200** for estimating body temperature. Method **200** may be implemented on any suitable computing system, having any suitable form factor and hardware configuration. Steps of method **200** may be distributed between any number of different computing devices. As examples, computing devices used to implement method **200** may include desktop computers, laptop com-



puters, servers, smartphones, tablets, augmented/virtual/mixed reality devices, wearable devices (e.g., fitness watches), media centers, vehicle computer systems, dedicated camera/monitoring systems, etc. In some examples, method 200 may be implemented via computing system 1000 described below with respect to FIG. 10.

Furthermore, method 200 is primarily described with respect to a single human subject, and results in reporting an indication of the body temperature of the human subject. However, it will be understood that steps of method 200 may be performed for any number of human subjects, who may be distributed between any number of different thermal images. In other words, each of the steps of method 200 may be performed for two or more human subjects, either simultaneously (e.g., two or more human subjects are visible in a same thermal image) or sequentially (e.g., two different human subjects are identified in two different thermal images). In cases where method 200 is applied to two or more human subjects, each human subject may have a different skin tone.

At 202, method 200 includes receiving, via a thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image. As discussed above, a thermal camera may be integrated into a computing device that performs one or more steps of method 200 beyond image capture. Alternatively, the thermal camera may be a standalone camera, or a component of a separate camera system. For example, FIG. 1 schematically depicts an example camera system 114, which may include at least a thermal camera. Thus, the one or more computing devices configured to implement steps of method 200 may in some case receive thermal images (and/or other images) from remote cameras. Camera system 114 may additionally include other types of cameras utilizing any camera technology. As examples, camera system 114 may include a thermal camera, visual light camera, and/or depth camera. In some cases, camera system 114 may include processing componentry usable to implement steps of method 200.

As another example, FIG. 3 schematically depicts a head-mounted display device 300 being worn on a user head 301. Head-mounted display device 300 includes a near-eye display configured to display virtual images to the user's eyes. Virtual images displayed on a near-eye display may take any suitable form, and may be provided as part of virtual and/or augmented reality experiences. In the example of FIG. 3, head-mounted display device 300 is displaying an indication 305 of an estimated body temperature of a human subject. However, as will be discussed in more detail below, indications of body temperature may take any suitable form and may be displayed via any suitable electronic display.

Head-mounted display device 300 includes a storage machine 304 that may hold instructions executable by a logic machine 306 to perform one or more steps of method 200, and/or any other suitable computer functions. Additional details with respect to the storage machine and logic machine are described below with respect to FIG. 10.

Head-mounted display device 300 also includes several cameras 308, 310, and 312. In one example, camera 308 may be a thermal camera, while camera 310 is a visible light camera and camera 312 is a depth camera. However, computing devices described herein may include any suitable collection of cameras useable to image environments and estimate body temperatures of human subjects. Each of these cameras may use any suitable technology.

In general, a "thermal camera" may include any imaging system configured to receive and encode thermal energy

(e.g., infrared light) from objects in an environment. In some examples, a thermal camera may include a radiometric lens disposed before other optical elements of the thermal camera. Similarly, when included, visible light and depth cameras may take any suitable form. For instance, a depth camera may be a structured light depth camera or a time-of-flight depth camera. Any or all of the cameras of computing devices described herein may capture images having any suitable resolution, and the images may be captured with any suitable frame rate.

As described herein, thermal cameras capture "thermal images" of real-world environments. One example thermal image 400 is schematically shown in FIG. 4. Thermal image 400 depicts an example human subject 402. Specifically, thermal image 400 includes a plurality of thermal intensity values 404, which correspond to four individual pixels of the thermal image. It will be understood that the thermal image may include any suitable number of pixels, and each pixel may have a corresponding thermal-intensity value.

In some cases, relatively higher thermal intensity values may correspond to regions in the imaged scene that are emitting relatively more thermal energy. In FIG. 4, pixels of thermal image 400 having relatively higher thermal intensity values are represented with relatively lighter shading. Thus, as can be seen, the face of human subject 402 is not emitting thermal energy uniformly. Rather, human faces typically exhibit some degree of temperature variation—e.g., the regions around a human's eyes are often higher temperature than regions corresponding to the human's nose, hair, ears, etc. This is reflected in FIG. 4, as relatively higher-temperature portions of the human's face have relatively higher thermal-intensity values in the thermal image.

A thermal image may take the form of any suitable data structure that includes a plurality of thermal intensity values, which in turn encode thermal energy received by the thermal camera from objects in an environment. In some cases, thermal intensity values may take the form of grey-level counts, which may have any suitable value. For example, grey-level counts may be expressed as a range between 0 and 255, or a different suitable quantization may be used. The present disclosure primarily describes thermal images as having a plurality of pixels. However, it will be understood that a "thermal image" need not be displayed on an electronic display, or otherwise visually represented in any manner. Rather, a thermal image including a plurality of pixels may in some cases be a purely non-visual data structure. Alternatively, and as will be described in more detail below, some representation of a thermal image may in some cases be visually displayed for review by a human user.

Returning to FIG. 2, at 204, method 200 includes identifying a position of at least a first human face within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject. In some cases, the position of the human face may be identified after receiving, via a second camera sensitive to a different spectrum of light from the thermal camera (e.g., camera 310 of head-mounted display device 300), a second image captured of the real-world environment. In one example, the second camera may be visible light camera, and the second image may be a visible light image. The device may then determine correspondences between pixels of the second image and pixels of the thermal image. For example, after identifying the position of the human face within the second image, the position of the human face within the thermal image may be identified based on the pixel-to-pixel correspondences between the two images.



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This is schematically illustrated in FIG. 5. Specifically, FIG. 5 again includes thermal image 400 depicting human subject 402. FIG. 5 also includes a second image 500, also depicting human subject 402. The computing device identifies a plurality of pixel-to-pixel correspondences 502 between image 500 and image 400. Such correspondences may be identified in any suitable way. The thermal image and second image may be captured by different cameras (e.g., cameras 308 and 310) having different positions and perspectives. When the relative positions and perspectives of the two cameras are known, pixels of images captured by each camera may be projected into a common frame of reference—e.g., relative to a virtual camera. In this manner, it may be determined which pixels of one image (e.g., image 500) correspond to the same real-world features as the other image (e.g., image 400). Thus, when a position 504A of a face of human subject 402 in image 500 is identified, the computing device may determine which pixels of image 400 correspond to the same position 504B of the face within the thermal image. In other examples, however, the position of one or more human faces within a thermal image may be identified in other suitable ways.

The face of a human subject may be identified in any suitable way. In some examples, any suitable facial recognition algorithm or technique may be used. For instance, one approach may include using a machine-learning trained classifier to identify pixels in an image (e.g., a visible light or thermal image) predicted to correspond to a human face.

Returning to FIG. 2, at 206, method 200 includes identifying a skin tone of the first human face. As discussed above, the amount of thermal energy emitted by an object at any given temperature is dependent on the object's thermal intensity value. With regard to human subjects, different skin tones correspond to different thermal emissivity values. For example, human subjects 102A and 102B in FIG. 1 have different skin tones, and thus will emit different amounts of thermal energy, even when both have the same core body temperature. Thus, in order to more accurately estimate the body temperature of a human subject, the human subject's skin tone may first be identified.

The skin tone of a human subject may be identified in any suitable way. In one example, the skin tone of a human subject may be identified based on the color of a human face in a second image as described above (e.g., a visible light image). For example, returning briefly to FIG. 5, the color of the face of human subject 402 may be identified based on the colors of pixels identified as corresponding to the position 504A of the human face within image 500. Additionally, or alternatively, the skin tone of a human subject may be identified from images that use non-visible wavelengths, such as images captured by a depth camera. As another example, the skin tone of a human subject may be manually specified by a human user.

Returning to FIG. 2, at 208, method 200 includes applying, based on the identified skin tone, a skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values. This is schematically illustrated with respect to FIGS. 6A and 6B. Specifically, FIG. 6A shows an example thermal image 600A of a face of a first human subject 601A.

The computing device identifies one or more thermal intensity values 602A of one or more pixels corresponding to the human face. In some cases, the one or more thermal intensity values to which the skin tone correction factor is applied may correspond to one or more highest-intensity pixels depicting the human face. In many cases, these pixels

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may correspond to the subject's eyes, and/or the skin around the subject's eyes, as is shown in FIG. 6A. In other examples, however, a skin tone correction factor may be applied to any thermal intensity values identified as corresponding to any part of a human subject.

Continuing with FIG. 6A, a first skin tone correction factor 604A is applied to the first thermal intensity values 602A to give tone-corrected thermal intensity values 606A. A "skin tone correction factor" may take any suitable form. In some examples, a skin tone correction factor may be applied by scaling the one or more thermal intensity values either up or down by some amount that is determined based on the identified skin tone.

For example, the thermal emissivity value of light-colored human skin has been estimated to be approximately 0.95, while the thermal emissivity of dark-colored skin is approximately 0.98. Thus, for a given body temperature, darker-skinned human subjects may have relatively higher thermal intensity values in a thermal image than lighter-skinned human subjects. Applying a skin tone correction factor may therefore include scaling thermal intensity values for lighter-skinned human subjects up, such that they are more consistent with darker-skinned human subjects. Alternatively, thermal intensity values for darker-skinned human subjects may be scaled down, such that they are more consistent with lighter-skinned human subjects. As another example, thermal intensity values for all human subjects may be scaled up by variable amounts, to give thermal intensity values consistent with a tone-neutral thermal emissivity value—e.g., 1.0.

In some implementations, skin tone correction factors may be predetermined for different specific skin tones. For example, the computing device may maintain a lookup table or similar data structure that defines a plurality of skin tone correction factors for use with a plurality of different skin tones. Alternatively, skin tone correction factors may be dynamically calculated on-the-fly based on a specific identified skin tone of a particular human subject.

FIG. 6B schematically shows a different thermal image 600B, corresponding to a face of a second human subject 601B. Notably, though not apparent from the thermal images, the first and second human subjects 601A and 601B have different skin tones. Thus, after one or more second thermal intensity values 602B are identified as corresponding to the face of human subject 601B, a second skin tone correction factor 604B is applied, giving one or more second tone-corrected thermal intensity values 606B. Because the skin tones of the first and second human subjects are different, the first and second skin tone correction factors are different. Thus, the first and second thermal intensity values, corresponding to the first and second human subjects, may be scaled by different amounts based on the first and second skin tone correction factors.

In the examples of FIGS. 6A and 6B, the first and second human subjects 601A and 601B are approximately the same distance from the thermal camera. For instance, during body temperature estimation, human subjects may be instructed to remain at a predetermined distance (e.g., 2 meters) away from the camera. In other examples, however, this need not always be the case. Furthermore, the amount of thermal energy received from a particular human subject (or other object in an environment) at a thermal camera will often decrease as the distance between the thermal camera and the subject increases. This may be particularly apparent when relatively inexpensive thermal cameras are used—e.g., those that lack radiometric lenses disposed before other optical elements of the camera. Even in the case where a radiomet-



ric lens is not used, the distance between a human subject and a thermal camera may still affect how the subject is represented in the thermal image. For instance, as the distance between the thermal camera and human subject increases, relatively fewer pixels of the thermal image will be used to represent relatively larger portions of the human subject. Thus, high-intensity regions of the human subject may be averaged or subsampled with relatively lower-intensity portions of the human subject, creating the illusion that the human has an overall lower temperature.

Thus, in some examples, a distance between the human subject away from the thermal camera may be estimated, and a distance correction factor may be applied to the one or more thermal intensity values of the one or more pixels corresponding to the identified face of the human subject. This may result in distance-corrected thermal intensity values. Distance correction may be performed in addition to, or instead of, skin tone correction as described above. In the examples of FIGS. 6A and 6B, a distance correction factor **610** is applied to the thermal intensity values identified for the faces of human subjects **601A** and **601B**. Distance-corrected thermal intensity values may be used to estimate the body temperature of a human subject, in a similar manner to tone-corrected thermal intensity values.

The distance between a human subject and a thermal camera may be determined in any suitable way. In some examples, this distance may be determined based on depth information collected by a depth camera—e.g., camera **312** of head-mounted display device **300** of FIG. 3. The depth camera may take any suitable form, including a time-of-flight depth camera and a structured light depth camera. In other examples, however, the distance between a thermal camera and a human subject may be determined without the benefit of a depth camera. For instance, a stereoscopic pair of visible light cameras may be used. When two or more subjects are present, the relative distances of each human subject may be estimated by comparing the relative sizes of each subject's head. Alternatively, a single visible light camera may be used, in tandem with a machine-learning trained distance estimation algorithm. As another example, the distance between a thermal camera and a human subject may be manually specified by a human user.

As with the skin tone correction factor, a distance correction factor may take any suitable form. Typically, applying a distance correction factor will include scaling thermal intensity values either up or down by some amount that depends on the distance between the human subject and the thermal camera. For example, when human subjects are relatively far from the thermal camera, thermal intensity values corresponding to the face of the human subject may be scaled up, such that they are more consistent with a human subject who is relatively closer to the thermal camera.

Returning to FIG. 2, at **210**, method **200** includes reporting an indication of a body temperature of the human subject based on the tone-corrected thermal intensity values. This is schematically illustrated in FIGS. 6A and 6B, as body temperatures **608A** and **608B** of human subjects **601A** and **601B** are estimated based on the first and second tone-corrected thermal intensity values **606A** and **606B**.

An indication of a body temperature of a human subject may be estimated in any suitable way. As discussed above, thermal intensity values of pixels of a thermal image correspond to the relative temperatures of objects in an environment. Thus, in some cases, the computing device need not estimate an absolute, numerical body temperature of any particular human subject. Rather, in some cases, reporting an

indication of a body temperature of a human subject may include outputting a notification that a particular human subject appears to have a meaningfully higher temperature than other human subjects, visible in a same or different thermal images.

Alternatively, in various examples, the computing device may use any suitable method for estimating the absolute, numerical body temperature of a human subject from a tone-corrected thermal intensity values of a thermal image. Because the performance of a thermal camera is affected by a number of factors, including temperature, it can be difficult or impossible to correlate any particular thermal intensity value with a temperature value without an independent reference. Accordingly, in one example, the real-world environment may include a blackbody radiator having a predetermined temperature and thermal emissivity value.

This is schematically illustrated in FIG. 7, which shows another example thermal image **700**, again depicting human subject **402**. In this example, however, the thermal image also depicts a blackbody radiator **702**. The blackbody radiator may have a predetermined temperature (e.g., 100° F.) and a known thermal emissivity value (e.g., 0.95). Thus, by evaluating thermal intensity values corresponding to the blackbody radiator, the computing device may determine a reference by which any particular thermal intensity values may be resolved to an absolute temperature. This may be done further based on a known sensitivity of the thermal camera—e.g., a known difference in grey-level count that corresponds to a known difference in temperature. In this manner, the temperature of any particular portion of the human subject may be estimated based on a comparison of the tone-corrected thermal intensity values for the human subject and thermal intensity values for the blackbody radiator, in tandem with the known temperature of the blackbody radiator. In other words, reporting the indication of the body temperature of a human subject may include comparing thermal intensity values of pixels corresponding to the blackbody radiator to tone-corrected thermal intensity values, as described above.

In some examples, the real-world environment may have two or more blackbody radiators. The two or more blackbody radiators may have the same or different known temperatures, and the same or different known thermal emissivity values. It may be beneficial for two blackbody radiators to have the same predetermined temperature, but different known thermal emissivity values. For example, one blackbody radiator may have a thermal emissivity value of 0.95, while another blackbody radiator has a thermal emissivity value of 0.98. In this manner, the two or more blackbody radiators may serve as baseline references for two or more different skin tones of human subjects. This is also shown in FIG. 7, in which the real-world environment further includes a second blackbody radiator **704**, having a different thermal emissivity value than blackbody radiator **702**.

A “blackbody radiator” as described herein may take any suitable form. The blackbody radiators depicted in FIG. 7 are shown schematically and are not limiting. Blackbody radiators may be composed of any suitable materials, have any shapes and sizes, and may have any suitable predetermined temperatures and thermal emissivity values.

In other examples, a real-world environment need not include a blackbody radiator for use as a reference. Rather, the computing device may derive a reference based on a plurality of other human subjects. For example, the computing device may identify the positions of a plurality of human faces in a plurality of thermal images. As discussed



above, each of the plurality of human faces may correspond to pixels of respective thermal images having different thermal intensity values. The computing device may determine an average thermal intensity for the plurality of users, and compare tone-corrected thermal intensity values measured for future human subjects to this determined average. Any human subjects with tone-corrected thermal intensity values that significantly exceed the average (e.g., by two or more standard deviations) may be flagged. In other words, reporting an indication of the body temperature of a human subject may be further done based on a comparison of tone-corrected thermal intensity values for the human subject to an average thermal intensity of a plurality of other human faces. Again, this may be done in tandem with a known sensitivity of the thermal camera—e.g., a known difference in grey-count levels that corresponds to a known difference in temperature.

This is schematically illustrated in FIG. 8, which shows another example thermal image 800. This thermal image includes a plurality of different human subjects 802A-802D. In this example, each of the human subjects are illustrated as if they have a uniform thermal intensity. It will be understood that this is done only for the sake of visual clarity, and that in practical scenarios, each human subject will have variable thermal intensity values across their body, as is the case for other thermal images described above.

In FIG. 8, the positions of the faces of the human subjects are identified, and thermal intensity values corresponding to the human faces are used to determine an average thermal intensity 804. As described above, in some cases the thermal intensity values used may correspond to the highest-intensity pixels for each subject (e.g., around the eye region), or any other suitable portion of each human subject may be used. The positions of the faces of each human subject may be identified in any suitable way—e.g., via comparison to a second image as discussed above.

In the example of FIG. 8, each of the plurality of human subjects are visible in a same thermal image 800. It will be understood that this is not limiting. Rather, in other examples, each of a plurality of human subjects used to determine an average thermal intensity may be identified in different thermal images. Furthermore, using an average thermal intensity as a reference in this manner is based on the assumption that most (if not all) of the human subjects have a normal body temperature (e.g., approximately 98.6° F.). Furthermore, if any human subjects are identified as having significantly higher or lower thermal intensity than other human subjects of the plurality, they may in some cases be excluded from the average thermal intensity as outliers. Once the average thermal intensity is determined, it may be presumed that the average thermal intensity corresponds to an average body temperature. Thus, any future thermal intensity values for a particular user that are significantly higher than the average may be indicate a fever.

In FIG. 8, each of the plurality of human subjects are disposed at different differences away from the thermal camera. As discussed above, this may cause some discrepancies between thermal intensity values measured for different human subjects having the same or similar body temperatures, based on the distance between each subject and the thermal camera. Accordingly, prior to calculation of the average thermal intensity, thermal intensity values corresponding to each human subject may undergo distance correction, as discussed above. Alternatively, for the purposes of determining an average thermal intensity, the computing device may only consider human subjects having a predetermined distance from the thermal camera (e.g., 2

meters). Similarly, the thermal intensity values of the plurality of human subjects may in some cases be tone-corrected prior to calculation of the average thermal intensity, in the case where multiple different skin tones are represented in the plurality of human subjects.

Once the body temperature of the human subject is estimated from tone-corrected thermal intensity values, an indication of the body temperature may be reported in any suitable way. FIGS. 9A-9C schematically depict various examples of ways in which an indication of a body temperature of a human subject may be reported. Specifically, FIG. 9A depicts an example displayed image 900, again showing human subject 402. Displayed image 900 may, for example, be a visible light image captured by a visible light camera. Displayed image 900 also includes a notification 902 that the body temperature of the human subject is estimated to exceed a predetermined fever threshold—e.g., 101° F. Any suitable fever threshold may be used. Furthermore, notification 902 is a non-limiting example. Other notifications may include any suitable information, and may take any suitable form, including non-visual forms—e.g., a different notification may be output as an audio alert.

FIG. 9B shows a different example displayed image 904, again taking the form of a visible light image depicting human subject 402. In this example, however, the indication of the body temperature of the human subject is reported via a notification 906, which includes an absolute, numerical estimate of the human subject's body temperature. Again, notification 906 may take any suitable form and include any suitable information.

FIG. 9C shows a third example displayed image 908. In this example, the displayed image is a representation of a thermal image. In other words, pixels of displayed image 908 are based on thermal intensity values, rather than wavelengths of visible light. In some cases, the pixel values of a representation of a thermal image, such as displayed image 908, may differ from pixel values of an original thermal image—e.g., to make the displayed image easier for human users to parse. For instance, the scale of the thermal intensity values may be changed, or artificial colors may be used to represent the thermal intensity of the various pixels.

Displayed image 908 also includes a thermal reference 910, indicating to a human user the relative temperatures that each pixel of the thermal image correspond to. While different degrees of grey-scale shading are used in this example, this is not limiting. Rather, other examples may use spectra of visible light colors—e.g., a range from blue to red. In other words, the indication of the body temperature of the human subject may in some cases be reported via colors of pixels used to represent the human subject in the displayed image.

It will be understood that each of displayed images 900, 904, and 908 are non-limiting. In general, a displayed image may be a visible light image, a representation of a thermal image, or take any other suitable form. Furthermore, a displayed image may represent a human subject in any suitable way, and similarly report an estimated body temperature of the human subject in any suitable way. Displayed images may be presented using any suitable electronic display. For example, displayed images may be presented using a near-eye display (e.g., near-eye displays 110 or 302), or any other type of electronic display, including televisions, computer monitors, mobile device displays, etc.

The methods and processes described herein may be tied to a computing system of one or more computing devices. In particular, such methods and processes may be implemented as an executable computer-application program, a network-



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accessible computing service, an application-programming interface (API), a library, or a combination of the above and/or other compute resources.

FIG. 10 schematically shows a simplified representation of a computing system 1000 configured to provide any to all of the compute functionality described herein. Computing system 1000 may take the form of one or more personal computers, network-accessible server computers, tablet computers, home-entertainment computers, gaming devices, mobile computing devices, mobile communication devices (e.g., smart phone), virtual/augmented/mixed reality computing devices, wearable computing devices, Internet of Things (IoT) devices, embedded computing devices, and/or other computing devices.

Computing system 1000 includes a logic subsystem 1002 and a storage subsystem 1004. Computing system 1000 may optionally include a display subsystem 1006, input subsystem 1008, communication subsystem 1010, and/or other subsystems not shown in FIG. 10.

Logic subsystem 1002 includes one or more physical devices configured to execute instructions. For example, the logic subsystem may be configured to execute instructions that are part of one or more applications, services, or other logical constructs. The logic subsystem may include one or more hardware processors configured to execute software instructions. Additionally, or alternatively, the logic subsystem may include one or more hardware or firmware devices configured to execute hardware or firmware instructions. Processors of the logic subsystem may be single-core or multi-core, and the instructions executed thereon may be configured for sequential, parallel, and/or distributed processing. Individual components of the logic subsystem optionally may be distributed among two or more separate devices, which may be remotely located and/or configured for coordinated processing. Aspects of the logic subsystem may be virtualized and executed by remotely-accessible, networked computing devices configured in a cloud-computing configuration.

Storage subsystem 1004 includes one or more physical devices configured to temporarily and/or permanently hold computer information such as data and instructions executable by the logic subsystem. When the storage subsystem includes two or more devices, the devices may be collocated and/or remotely located. Storage subsystem 1004 may include volatile, nonvolatile, dynamic, static, read/write, read-only, random-access, sequential-access, location-addressable, file-addressable, and/or content-addressable devices. Storage subsystem 1004 may include removable and/or built-in devices. When the logic subsystem executes instructions, the state of storage subsystem 1004 may be transformed—e.g., to hold different data.

Aspects of logic subsystem 1002 and storage subsystem 1004 may be integrated together into one or more hardware-logic components. Such hardware-logic components may include program- and application-specific integrated circuits (ASIC/ASICs), program- and application-specific standard products (PSSP/ASSPs), system-on-a-chip (SOC), and complex programmable logic devices (CPLDs), for example.

The logic subsystem and the storage subsystem may cooperate to instantiate one or more logic machines. As used herein, the term “machine” is used to collectively refer to the combination of hardware, firmware, software, instructions, and/or any other components cooperating to provide computer functionality. In other words, “machines” are never abstract ideas and always have a tangible form. A machine may be instantiated by a single computing device, or a machine may include two or more sub-components instan-

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tiated by two or more different computing devices. In some implementations a machine includes a local component (e.g., software application executed by a computer processor) cooperating with a remote component (e.g., cloud computing service provided by a network of server computers). The software and/or other instructions that give a particular machine its functionality may optionally be saved as one or more unexecuted modules on one or more suitable storage devices.

When included, display subsystem 1006 may be used to present a visual representation of data held by storage subsystem 1004. This visual representation may take the form of a graphical user interface (GUI). Display subsystem 1006 may include one or more display devices utilizing virtually any type of technology. In some implementations, display subsystem may include one or more virtual-, augmented-, or mixed reality displays.

When included, input subsystem 1008 may comprise or interface with one or more input devices. An input device may include a sensor device or a user input device. Examples of user input devices include a keyboard, mouse, touch screen, or game controller. In some embodiments, the input subsystem may comprise or interface with selected natural user input (NUI) componentry. Such componentry may be integrated or peripheral, and the transduction and/or processing of input actions may be handled on- or off-board. Example NUI componentry may include a microphone for speech and/or voice recognition; an infrared, color, stereoscopic, and/or depth camera for machine vision and/or gesture recognition; a head tracker, eye tracker, accelerometer, and/or gyroscope for motion detection and/or intent recognition.

When included, communication subsystem 1010 may be configured to communicatively couple computing system 1000 with one or more other computing devices. Communication subsystem 1010 may include wired and/or wireless communication devices compatible with one or more different communication protocols. The communication subsystem may be configured for communication via personal-, local- and/or wide-area networks.

This disclosure is presented by way of example and with reference to the associated drawing figures. Components, process steps, and other elements that may be substantially the same in one or more of the figures are identified coordinately and are described with minimal repetition. It will be noted, however, that elements identified coordinately may also differ to some degree. It will be further noted that some figures may be schematic and not drawn to scale. The various drawing scales, aspect ratios, and numbers of components shown in the figures may be purposely distorted to make certain features or relationships easier to see.

In an example, a method for estimating human body temperature comprises: receiving, via a thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image; identifying a position of at least a first human face within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject; identifying a skin tone of the first human face; applying, based on the identified skin tone, a skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values; and based on the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values, reporting an indication of a body temperature of the first human subject. In this example or any other example, the method further comprises: identifying a posi-



tion of a second human face corresponding to a second human subject within a second thermal image; identifying a second skin tone of the second human face, different from the skin tone of the first human face; applying, based on the identified second skin tone, a second skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the second human face to give one or more second tone-corrected thermal intensity values; and based on the one or more second tone-corrected thermal intensity values, reporting an indication of a body temperature of the second human subject. In this example or any other example, the method further comprises receiving, via a second camera sensitive to a different spectrum of light than the thermal camera, a second image captured of the real-world environment, and identifying correspondences between pixels of the second image and pixels of the thermal image. In this example or any other example, identifying the skin tone of the first human face includes identifying a color of the first human face in the second image. In this example or any other example, the method further comprises identifying a position of the first human face within the second image, and identifying the position of the first human face within the thermal image based on the correspondences between the pixels of the second image and the pixels of the thermal image. In this example or any other example, the one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face, having the thermal intensity values to which the skin tone correction factor is applied, include one or more highest-intensity pixels of the first human face. In this example or any other example, reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject includes estimating an absolute body temperature of the first human subject. In this example or any other example, the thermal intensity values are grey-level counts, and the absolute body temperature of the first human subject is estimated based on a known sensitivity of the thermal camera. In this example or any other example, the absolute body temperature of the first human subject is numerically represented on a near-eye display of a head-mounted display device, such that the absolute body temperature is displayed at a screen space position on the near-eye display at or near a position corresponding to the first human subject. In this example or any other example, the method further comprises displaying a representation of the thermal image on an electronic display, and reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject via colors of pixels used to represent the first human subject. In this example or any other example, reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject includes outputting a notification that the body temperature of the first human subject is estimated to exceed a predetermined fever threshold. In this example or any other example, the first human subject is located at a predetermined distance away from the thermal camera. In this example or any other example, the method further comprises estimating a distance of the first human subject away from the thermal camera, applying a distance correction factor to the one or more thermal intensity values of the one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more distance-corrected thermal intensity values, and further reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject based on the distance-corrected thermal intensity values. In this example or any other example, the real-world environment includes a blackbody radiator having a predetermined temperature and thermal emissivity value, and the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject is further reported based on a comparison of thermal intensity values of one or more

pixels corresponding to the blackbody radiator to the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values. In this example or any other example, the real-world environment includes two or more blackbody radiators, each having the predetermined temperature and different known thermal emissivity values. In this example or any other example, two or more human subject are represented in the thermal image. In this example or any other example, the method further comprises: identifying positions of a plurality of human faces in a plurality of thermal images, each of the plurality of human faces corresponding to one or more pixels of respective thermal images having corresponding thermal intensity values; determining an average thermal intensity of the plurality of human faces; and reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject further based on a comparison of the average thermal intensity of the plurality of human faces to the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values.

In an example, a computing device comprises: a thermal camera; a logic machine; and a storage machine holding instructions executable by the logic machine to: receive, via the thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image; identify a position of at least a first human face within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject; identify a skin tone of the first human face; apply a skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values; and based on the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values, report an indication of a body temperature of the first human subject. In this example or any other example, the thermal intensity values are grey-level counts, reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject includes estimating an absolute body temperature of the first human subject, and where the absolute body temperature of the first human subject is estimated based on a known sensitivity of the thermal camera.

In an example, a head-mounted display device comprises: a near-eye display; a thermal camera; a logic machine; and a storage machine holding instructions executable by the logic machine to: receive, via the thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image; identify a position of at least a first human face within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject; identify a skin tone of the first human face; apply a skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values; based on the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values, estimate a body temperature of the first human subject; and numerically display the body temperature of the first human subject at a screen space position on the near-eye display at or near a position corresponding to the first human subject.

It will be understood that the configurations and/or approaches described herein are exemplary in nature, and that these specific embodiments or examples are not to be considered in a limiting sense, because numerous variations are possible. The specific routines or methods described herein may represent one or more of any number of processing strategies. As such, various acts illustrated and/or described may be performed in the sequence illustrated



and/or described, in other sequences, in parallel, or omitted. Likewise, the order of the above-described processes may be changed.

The invention claimed is:

**1.** A method for estimating human body temperature, the method comprising:

receiving, via a thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image;

identifying a position of at least a first human face within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject;

identifying a skin tone of the first human face based at least in part on pixel colors of a second image captured of the real-world environment, the second image received via a second camera sensitive to a different spectrum of light than the thermal camera;

applying, based on the identified skin tone, a skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values; and

based on the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values, reporting an indication of a body temperature of the first human subject.

**2.** The method of claim **1**, further comprising:

identifying a position of a second human face corresponding to a second human subject within a second thermal image;

identifying a second skin tone of the second human face, different from the skin tone of the first human face, based at least in part on pixel colors of a third image captured of the real-world environment, the third image received via the second camera sensitive to the different spectrum of light than the thermal camera;

applying, based on the identified second skin tone, a second skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the second human face to give one or more second tone-corrected thermal intensity values; and

based on the one or more second tone-corrected thermal intensity values, reporting an indication of a body temperature of the second human subject.

**3.** The method of claim **1**, further comprising identifying a position of the first human face within the second image, and identifying the position of the first human face within the thermal image based on correspondences between the pixels of the second image and the pixels of the thermal image.

**4.** The method of claim **1**, where the one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face, having the one or more thermal intensity values to which the skin tone correction factor is applied, include one or more highest-intensity pixels of the first human face.

**5.** The method of claim **1**, where reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject includes estimating an absolute body temperature of the first human subject.

**6.** The method of claim **5**, where the thermal intensity values for each of the plurality of pixels of the thermal image are grey-level counts, and the absolute body temperature of the first human subject is estimated based on a known sensitivity of the thermal camera.

**7.** The method of claim **5**, where the absolute body temperature of the first human subject is numerically represented on a near-eye display of a head-mounted display

device, such that the absolute body temperature is displayed at a screen space position on the near-eye display at or near a position corresponding to the first human subject.

**8.** The method of claim **1**, further comprising displaying a representation of the thermal image on an electronic display, and reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject via colors of pixels used to represent the first human subject.

**9.** The method of claim **1**, where reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject includes outputting a notification that the body temperature of the first human subject is estimated to exceed a predetermined fever threshold.

**10.** The method of claim **1**, where the first human subject is located at a predetermined distance away from the thermal camera.

**11.** The method of claim **1**, further comprising estimating a distance of the first human subject away from the thermal camera, applying a distance correction factor to the one or more thermal intensity values of the one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more distance-corrected thermal intensity values, and further reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject based on the distance-corrected thermal intensity values.

**12.** The method of claim **1**, where the real-world environment includes a blackbody radiator having a predetermined temperature and thermal emissivity value, and the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject is further reported based on a comparison of thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the blackbody radiator to the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values.

**13.** The method of claim **12**, where the real-world environment includes two or more blackbody radiators, each having the predetermined temperature and different known thermal emissivity values.

**14.** The method of claim **1**, where two or more human subjects are represented in the thermal image.

**15.** The method of claim **1**, further comprising: identifying positions of a plurality of human faces in a plurality of thermal images, each of the plurality of human faces corresponding to one or more pixels of respective thermal images having corresponding thermal intensity values;

determining an average thermal intensity of the plurality of human faces; and

reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject further based on a comparison of the average thermal intensity of the plurality of human faces to the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values.

**16.** A computing device, comprising:

a thermal camera;

a logic machine; and

a storage machine holding instructions executable by the logic machine to:

receive, via the thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image;

identify a position of at least a first human face within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject;

identify a skin tone of the first human face based at least in part on pixel colors of a second image captured of the real-world environment, the second image

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received via a second camera sensitive to a different spectrum of light than the thermal camera;  
 apply a skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values; and  
 based on the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values, report an indication of a body temperature of the first human subject.

**17.** The computing device of claim **16**, where the thermal intensity values for each of the plurality of pixels of the thermal image are grey-level counts, reporting the indication of the body temperature of the first human subject includes estimating an absolute body temperature of the first human subject, and where the absolute body temperature of the first human subject is estimated based on a known sensitivity of the thermal camera.

**18.** A head-mounted display device, comprising:  
 a near-eye display;  
 a thermal camera;  
 a logic machine; and  
 a storage machine holding instructions executable by the logic machine to:

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receive, via the thermal camera, a thermal image captured of a real-world environment, the thermal image including thermal intensity values for each of a plurality of pixels of the thermal image;  
 identify a position of at least a first human face within the thermal image, the first human face corresponding to a first human subject;  
 identify a skin tone of the first human face based at least in part on a manual user input;  
 apply a skin tone correction factor to one or more thermal intensity values of one or more pixels corresponding to the first human face to give one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values;  
 based on the one or more tone-corrected thermal intensity values, estimate a body temperature of the first human subject; and  
 numerically display the body temperature of the first human subject at a screen space position on the near-eye display at or near a position corresponding to the first human subject.

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